INCLASSIFIED EXCISE

TEXT OF TELEGRAM BOSEOUL COBOBO

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE 4003/068 IS/FPC/CDR () RELEASE t : DECLASSIFY MR Cases Only: (X) EXCISE K) DECLASSIFY EO Citations () DENY IN PART () DELETE Non-Responsive Info FOIA Exemptions B ___ TS authority to () CLASSIFY as () S or () U UADR Exemptions () DOWNGRADE TS to () S or () C UADR

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SECTION O1 OF 02 SECUL 08080

E.O. 12065: RDS-1 6/24/00 (GLEYSTEEN, W.H.) OR-M TAGS: PINT, PEPR, SHUM, EFIN, KS, US SUBJECT: MY JUNE 23 CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER PARK

REF: (A) STATE 162988, (B) STATE 163106

1. (S) SUMMARY: I CALLED ON THE FOREIGN MINISTER JUNE 23 TO EXPLAIN CUR IMMINENT ADB LOAN ABSTENSION AS WELL AS OUR POSITION ON IMPRISONED KOREAN POLITICAL LEADERS, AND TO PROTEST THE ENTRY OF FIVE ARMED ROK MILITARY PERSONNEL INTO OUR KWANCCU CULTURAL CENTER THAT SAME DAY. THE FORMIN TOOK NOTE OF OUR POSITIONS. HE WENT ON TO

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| END SUMMARY.

2. I CALLED ON FOREIGN MINISTER PARK (M-R: PAK TONG-CHIN) BUNF 23 TO TAKE UP THREE ISSUES: OUR IMMINENT ABSTENTION UN THE ADB LOAN TO KOREA (REF A), OUR CONCERNOVER KOREAN POLITICAL PRISONERS (REF B), AND THE INVASION OF OUR KWANGJU CULTURAL CENTER BY FIVE ARMED ROK SOLDIERS

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THAT MORNING. PARK LISTENED CAREFULLY AND RESPONDED CAUTIOUSLY ON MATTERS THAT ARE ESSENTIALLY BEYOND HIS CONTROL.

3. I COVERED THE ADB LOAN TALKING POINTS CAREFULLY, POINTING OUT THAT OUR LAW, WITH WHICH I HAD SOME FAMILIARITY, VIRTUALLY COMPELS THIS TYPE OF ACTION WHERE THERE HAVE BEEN SUCH SERIOUS HUMAN RIGHTS SETBACKS. I ADDED THAT THERE WOULD BE AN EXPLANATION OF THE VOTE AND PAGE NO.

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Reviewed by: Elijah Kelly Jr.

Date: 4.08

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ALMOST SURELY SOME PUBLICITY. IN RESPONSE TO PARK'S QUESTION, I SAID I DID NOT KNOW HOW LONG THIS POLICY MIGHT LAST, BUT I HOPED THAT FAVORABLE TRENDS IN KOREA MIGHT PERMIT A DIFFERENT POLICY.

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THE SAID HE HAD HEARD THAT THE SECRETARY, IN A DISCUSSION WITH AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN SHORTLY BEFORE LEAVING FOR ITALY, HAD REPORTEDLY ADVISED THEM TO ADOPT A WAIT-AND-SEE ATTITUDE TOWARD KOREA. I REPLIED THAT I WAS UNAWARE OF SUCH COMMENTS BUT PROMISED TO LOOK INTO THE STORY. IN ANY EVENT, WE WERE NOT EMBARKED ON AN ECONOMIC VENDETTA AGAINST KOREA; ON THE CONTRARY, WE WOULD SEE TO IT THAT, TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, THE ROK ECONOMY WOULD NOT BE HADMED.

A. (S) WITH REGARD TO POLITICAL PRISONERS (REF B), I WENT CAREFULLY THROUGH THE TALKING POINTS STRESSING PARA 3. TICK 3. A ALSO REITERATED MY STRONG PERSONAL CONCERN THAT THE PRISONERS DE TREATED HUMANELY AND THAT THEIR FAMILIES BE INFORMED OF THEIR WHEREABOUTS AND WELL-BEING AND HAVE ACCESS TO THEM. THAT THIS HAD NOT ALREADY BEEN DONE, DESPITE OUR REPEATED INQUIRIES, WAS DISTURBING. PARK NOTED



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OUR POSITION AND SUGGESTED THAT

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POINTED OUT THAT OTHER COUNTRIES, AS SENSITIVE ABOUT THEIR SOVEREIGNTY AS THE ROK, HAD MADE SOVEREIGN DECISIONS TO PERMIT OUTSIDE OBSERVERS. I ALSO UNDERSCORED FOR THE FOREIGN MINISTER THE EXTREMELY UNFAVORABLE IMPACT ON INTERNATIONAL OPINION THAT BROAD UNSUBSTANTIATED CHARGES AGAINST KIM DAE JUNG (M-R: KIM TAE-CHUNG) AND EXTREME PUNISHMENTS WOULD HAVE.

5. (C) I THEN PROTESTED THE INVASION OF OUR KWANGJU CULTURAL CENTER ON JUNE 23 BY FIVE ARMED ROK SOLDIERS, TWO MAJORS AND THREE ENLISTED MEN WITH PISTOLS AND BAYONETS ON THEIR RIFLES. THEY ASKED ABOUT CURRENT ISSUES OF TIME AND NEWSWEEK MAGAZINES AND AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS. THEY WERE TOLD THAT THE MAGAZINES WERE ON THE LIBRARY SHELF IN THEIR USUAL PLACE, BUT CONTAINED NO STORIES ON KOREA, AND THAT AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS WERE USUALLY RECEIVED LATE AND CURRENT ISSUES ALSO HAD NOTHING ON KOREA. WITH THAT, THEY LEFT. I TOLD THE FOREIGN MINISTER THAT, REGARDLESS OF THE LEGAL MERITS OF THE CASE, THIS WAS CLEARLY AN UNPRECEDENTED OCCURRENCE WHICH SHOULD NOT HAPPEN AGAIN. SUCH GROSS BEHAVIOR WOULD BE HIGHLY DAMAGING TO THE ROK. HE PROMISED

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TO LOOK INTO THE MATTER.

(C) DURING THE COURSE OF OUR CONVERSATION, PARK SAID

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I COMMENTED THAT, WHILE THE POLITICAL SCHEDULE WAS STILL INCOTANT, THE USG HAD BECOME MORE CONCERNED THAN IN THE PAST ABOUT "HOW, NOT JUST "WHEN", POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS WOULD TAKE PLACE. GLEYSTEEN

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Reviewed by: Ehjah Kelly Jr.

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